

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please cancel claims 8-9, 16 and 24 and amend claims 1-3, 5,12, 22-23 and 25-26 as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for marking contact lens containers a laminated film that covers and seals a contact lens container, wherein said laminated film comprises having a metal film and a plastic film affixed to the metal film, the method comprising the steps of:
welding a laminated film to a contact lens container to seal the container, wherein the laminated film comprises a metallic substrate affixed to an upside plastic material and an underside plastic material that can be welded to the container;
creating marks on the laminated film welded to the container by removing said upside plastic film down to said metallic substrate film without perforating the metal film or by changing the upside plastic film in a manner that a visible color change occurs, by means of a laser, wherein the step of creating is performed after a contact lens container is sealed by the the laminated film.
2. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the upside plastic film has pigments which change their colour on laser treatment.
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the upside plastic film has a side facing towards the metallic substrate film and a side facing away from the metallic substrate film, and said upside plastic film has printed text on the side facing towards or away from the metallic substrate film.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein the printed text is printed with pigments that change colour on laser treatment.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the contact lens container is a blister pack and the laminated film is firmly welded with the blister pack to seal the blister pack.
6. (previously presented) The method of claim 5 wherein several blister packs are covered and sealed by a strip of the laminated film and form a blister strip.
7. (previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the blister strip has five blister packs.
- 8-9. (Canceled)
10. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising the use of a CO₂-laser as a laser.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 comprising the use of a Nd:YAG laser.
12. (Currently amended) The method of claim 10 comprising the use of a CO₂-laser with the wavelength 10.6 μm and the focus point of the laser beam with a diameter of 1000–100 μm, ~~and preferably of 320 μm~~.
13. (previously presented) The method of claim 6 comprising a stopper bar for the blister packs.
14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the blister packs are transported within a packaging plant in at least two manufacturing lines alongside one other.
15. (Original) The method of claim 14 comprising two or more lasers for the marking of blister packs in lines.
- 16-21. (Canceled)
22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the upside plastic film is a colored plastic film whose color contrasts sharply with the color of the metallic substrate film, and wherein the colored plastic film is removed by means of the laser down to the metallic substrate film without perforating the metallic substrate film.
23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the metallic substrate film is an aluminum film.
24. (canceled)
25. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein several blister packs are covered and sealed by a strip of the laminated film and form a blister strip.
26. (Currently amended) The method of claim 23, wherein the laminated film is marked by laser after welding to the blister pack.

Should the Examiner believe that a discussion with Applicants' representative would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned. Please address all correspondence to Robert Gorman, CIBA Vision, Patent Department, 11460 Johns Creek Parkway, Duluth, GA 30097. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2965.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: Feb. 27, 2004

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